



EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICE OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL

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Situation Report

0800020402

Winter Ice Storm

February 4, 2002 0800 hrs.

Situation: An intense winter storm containing snow, ice, sleet and freezing rain affected the west central and north central part of the State on Tuesday, January 29th. The results of the storm were devastating to many communities. A tremendous amount of people were without power for extended periods of time due to downed trees crippling power supplies within the affected area. Shelters were opened within the affected area to provide for the victims. Power crews have worked non-stop since the onset of the storm to restore power to the affected area.

Governor Holden issued an executive order on January 31, 2002 declaring a State of Emergency for counties in the west, central and northern parts of the State. The Emergency Operations Center (EOC) at the State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA) was activated the morning of January 31, 2002. SEMA established and maintained contact with the communities and jurisdictions affected by the storm and accumulated the preliminary damage reports as they became available. The EOC has remained open 24/7 since then but will likely terminate operations later today.

Disaster Recovery teams were dispatched to the affected area on February 1, 2002. The teams traveled throughout the affected area and met with local representatives to conduct damage assessment. Team findings were briefed to FEMA Region VII yesterday afternoon, February 3, 2002. Additionally, on February 3, 2002, an Ice Storm Supplemental Assessment Summary was sent to every community and jurisdiction known to have damage in an effort to get a more accurate picture of the situation and to see if we would meet FEMA's requirements for federal assistance. The summaries are due to SEMA no later than 10:00 a.m. on Monday, February 4, 2002 at which time they will be analyzed and further decisions made.

Forty plus (40+) shelters were initially opened on January 31st. Shelters remained opened in the affected areas for as long as the need existed. As of this report, there are fewer shelters remaining open.

Power companies still report approximately 100K customers without power in the metro area. Approximately 400 power crews from outside the area are assisting.

Bates County: Intermittent power problems caused power to water pumps to fail. Power restored by 6 p.m. on Sunday.

Forecast: Weather forecast calls for plenty of sunshine today with highs near 36F with winds NNE 5 to 10 mph. Extended forecast is calling for partly cloudy skies to develop with highs in the mid 40's and lows in the 30's with winds coming out of the WSW at 10 to 15 mph.

General Information:

The Governor will consider requesting Public and Individual Assistance for a Federal Declaration today. Probably not all counties will be considered on the initial request, but additional counties will be added as assessments are made.